

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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UNCLAS STATE 041218

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR RECORDS BY CHURCH OF SCIENTOLOGY

1. DEPARTMENT HAS RECEIVED REQUEST FROM JOEL KREINER, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW, FOR (DECLASSIFICATION AND) RELEASE, UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT, OF RECORDS AND INFORMATION MAINTAINED BY "ALL U.S. EMBASSIES AS WELL AS ANY AND ALL COMPONENTS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE" RELATING TO ACTIVITIES OF CHURCH OF SCIENTOLOGY OF CALIFORNIA.
2. KREINER STATES EMBASSY FILES MAY BE INDEXED UNDER TITLES: SCIENTOLOGY, CHURCH OF SCIENTOLOGY, L. RON HUBBARD (FOUNDER OF SCIENTOLOGY), BOLIVAR, AIRES, EXCALIBUR, GRINNEL, NEPTUNE, APOLLO (NAMES OF MARINE VESSELS LEASED FOR TRAINING ACTIVITIES).
3. SPECIFIC REQUESTS FOR SCIENTOLOGY RECORDS ALREADY RECEIVED BY NUMEROUS POSTS. THESE POSTS SHOULD DISREGARD THIS COMMUNICATION. DEPARTMENT SUGGESTS HANDLING IN FOLLOWING MANNER FOR POSTS NOT ALREADY INSTRUCTED.
4. ANY REQUEST FOR (DECLASSIFICATION AND) RELEASE OF UNCLASSIFIED

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OFFICIAL RECORDS MUST BE HANDLED IN ACCORDANCE WITH

DEPARTMENT'S REGULATIONS (5 FAM 480-483, 920-926).
EMBASSY FILES PERTAINING TO KREINER'S REQUEST SHOULD
BE FORWARDED TO DEPARTMENT WITH STATEMENT OF EMBASSY VIEWS
ON DECLASSIFICATION AND RELEASE.

5. IF YOU DETERMINE THAT A DOCUMENT CANNOT BE RELEASED IN
WHOLE OR IN PART, SPECIFY WHICH EXCEPTION LISTED IN
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (5 FAM 481 APPENDIX A, SECTION
6.4) IS BASIS FOR DENIAL. IF DOCUMENT IS CLASSIFIED,
SPECIFY UNDER WHAT CATEGORY OF SECTION 5B, EXECUTIVE ORDER
LL652 (5 FAM 924) DOCUMENT OR PART OF IT IS BEING EXEMPTED
FROM GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE.

6. FOLLOWING GUIDELINES SHOULD BE KEPT IN MIND: CLASSI-
FIED DOCUMENTS SHOULD FIRST BE REVIEWED WITH RESPECT TO
WHETHER THEIR RELEASE WOULD DAMAGE U.S. FOREIGN RELATIONS.
IN THIS REGARD SEE 5 FAM 900 (FF). UNCLASSIFIED AND LOU
DOCUMENTS (AND DOCUMENTS WHICH NO LONGER QUALIFY FOR
CLASSIFICATION AFTER REVIEWED AS ABOVE) SHOULD BE EVALUATED
IN TERMS OF THE APPROPRIATE FOIA EXEMPTION. SEE 5 FAM 481,
22 CFR 6.4 (B)-(G). SECTION 6.4 (A) ONLY APPLIES TO
CLASSIFIED MATERIALS. AS GENERAL RULE, 6.4 (E) APPLIES TO
MATERIALS SETTING OUT FRANK OPINIONS OR ADVICE. THIS
EXEMPTION WOULD NOT COVER STRAIGHT FACTUAL REPORTING.
EMBASSIES SHOULD CABLE DEPARTMENT IF ADDITIONAL NEED FOR
INSTRUCTIONS BECOMES NECESSARY.

7. AFTER REVIEW, AIR POUCH ALL DOCUMENTS TO DEPARTMENT
FOR COORDINATION BY FREEDOM OF INFORMATION STAFF, BUREAU
OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS. KREINER HAS BEEN ADVISED THAT REQUESTS
FOR RECORDS SHOULD BE MADE THROUGH THAT OFFICE. IT IS
SUGGESTED THAT EMBASSIES MAINTAIN COPIES OF DOCUMENTS FOR
OWN FILES.

8. FYI. UNDER 5 FAM 482.2, POSTS CAN HANDLE REQUESTS FOR
RELEASE OF UNCLASSIFIED OR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE RECORDS
EXCEPT WHERE RECORDS ARE TO BE DENIED. DEPARTMENT PRE-
FERS TO COORDINATE ALL RECORDS IN THIS CASE, HOWEVER,
BECAUSE OF VOLUME AND NATURE OF DOCUMENTS KREINER IS
REQUESTING.
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9. SEVERAL POSTS HAVE INDICATED THEY HAVE RECEIVED DOCU-
MENT ENTITLED "EVIDENCE ON RELIGIOUS BONA FIDES AND STATUS
OF THE CHURCH OF SCIENTOLOGY-" THIS DOCUMENT, WHICH WAS
APPARENTLY PRINTED AND DISTRIBUTED BY THE CHURCH, NEED
NOT BE INCLUDED IN THE PRESENT REVIEW. OTHER DOCUMENTS
RECEIVED FROM THE CHURCH, HOWEVER, SHOULD BE REVIEWED. KISSINGER

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